Verification and Monitoring of Centrally Financed Projects/Schemes

1401. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that most of the State Governments are not in a position to make physical verification and monitoring of the projects/schemes financed by the Central Government; and

(b) if so, whether the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation propose to handle the work of physical verification and monitoring of the projects/schemes itself?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The Centrally Sponsored Schemes are formulated by the Central Ministries/Departments in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territories and are implemented by the State Governments/Union Territories. These schemes are monitored by the administrative Ministries concerned. The Planning Commission does not have any direct role in their implementation. It, however, generally reviews the implementation of Plan Schemes during the Annual Plan discussions with the State Governments/Union Territories and Central Ministries/Departments.

Assistance to Municipalities for clean drinking water

1402. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme to assist Municipalities to arrange pure and clean drinking water to the people;

(b) if so, the funds available with Government for this purpose for 1996-97; and

(c) the amount of funds earmarked and released for Andhra Pradesh during 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Yes, Sir. A Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) for towns having population less than 20,000 (as per 1991 Census) has been introduced with effect from March, 1994. Under this programme cost for providing drinking water supply to towns is shared between the Central and the State Government in the ratio of 1:1.

(b) For 1996-97, a tentative allocation of Rs. 20.00 crores has been made for AUTS programme.

(c) No proposal has so far been received from the State of Andhra Pradesh by the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment. In view of this, no funds have been earmarked for Andhra Pradesh during 1996-97.

LPG Agencies in Kerala

1403. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any specific norms for selecting areas for allotment of LPG agencies;

(b) if so, how many agencies are functioning under various petroleum companies in Kerala; particularly in Kottayam district; and

(c) the reasons for not sanctioning more agencies in Kottayam district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) As per existing policy, LPG distributorships are planned to be opened at places having a population of 10,000 and above, in a phased manner, provided potential of the location including that of the adjoining villages within 15 KM radius is adequate to sustain a viable